



Briefly

Anthrax shots

The 49th Medical Group received official Air Force guidance to resume providing anthrax vaccinations.

The Anthrax Vaccination Implementation Program guidelines remain unchanged from the past.

Unit rosters of individuals now due to get the anthrax vaccine have been forwarded to unit deployment managers and healthcare monitors.

The immunization clinic will provide anthrax vaccination 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.

For more information, call the immunization clinic at 572-7188.

Wing run

The wing run is today at 3 p.m.

For more information, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 572-3256.

Cable outage

Charter is rerouting the cable by the new Heritage Park (or old soccer field) and cable will be out from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday to the areas east of First Street, the 2000 area in base housing and building 29.

For more information, call Charter Communications at 437-3101.

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Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Davidson

Staff Sgt. Michael Klinkert (right) and Airman 1st Class Christopher Coble were driving this heavily armored Humvee Jan. 5 when they entered an unmarked minefield at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. Explosions rocked the vehicle, and they were stranded for about two hours until a mine-clearing vehicle was sent in. Sergeant Klinkert and Airman Coble are deployed from the 49th Security Forces Squadron and assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Group at Bagram Air Base.

Holloman airmen escape minefield

by Tech. Sgt. Brian Davidson
Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan
Public Affairs

Two security forces airmen on patrol along the base perimeter here Jan. 5 were rescued two hours after becoming trapped in an unmarked minefield.

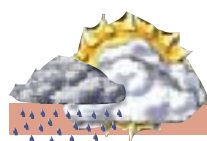
Staff Sgt. Michael Klinkert and Airman 1st Class Christopher Coble

were in a heavily armored Humvee at about 8 p.m., when six explosions rocked the vehicle, disabling it and blowing up the passenger-side tires.

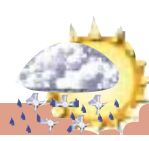
The airmen, both 455th Expeditionary Operations Group security forces specialists deployed from Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., were not injured. After waiting about two hours, a mine-clearing vehicle was sent in to extract them.

The airmen relied on their training to keep a bad situation from getting worse as they waited, stranded remarkably close to the base perimeter wire. Sergeant Klinkert climbed into the vehicle's gun turret and using his Global Positioning System, called in their exact position. Meanwhile, Airman

see AIRMEN on Page 5



High: 56
Low: 34
TODAY



High: 50
Low: 28
SATURDAY



High: 52
Low: 22
SUNDAY



High: 58
Low: 28
MONDAY

New year brings new challenges to base

by Brig. Gen. Jim Hunt
49th Fighter Wing commander

As we step off into 2004, the 49th Fighter Wing and Holloman have many challenges awaiting us. But I think it's important to prioritize just what is most important.

We really have just three priorities for the New Year. First, as lead wing for Air Expeditionary Force nine, we must ensure all of our units are ready to deploy, most likely to Southwest Asia, to support the continuing War on Terrorism. As all of you know, some of these deployment locations are dangerous — it's critical all of those deploying are ready to do their jobs effectively and return home safely after their rotation. For those left behind, we will have to do double duty to keep the base running and support the active duty, dependents and retirees who call Holloman home. I would hope those who are still here will understand there will be some decrease in service as more

than 700 personnel deploy forward.

Second, the wing must prepare for an Operational Readiness Inspection, scheduled this November. This preparation will directly and indirectly affect the lives of everyone associated with the base. Preparation for an inspection like this takes time away from hospital appointments, ID card processing, and all of those other tasks we simply take for granted. We have a lot of work to do in order to do well in this inspection, and all of us — active duty, dependent and retired, can expect some turmoil over the next few months. But we'll be ready! I've asked all commanders to start training now — don't wait for the next wing-wide exercise! The secret to success in any ORI is each unit doing its mission well. That means regular unit training, outside of wing exercises, in order to get the mission done properly.

Finally, we'll continue to work to improve the quality of life here. Quality of life doesn't necessarily mean new furniture, carpet or shorter work hours, but

we've made great strides to make improvements at Holloman to make life better. A renovated theater, a new football field, a skate park, a motocross track, the gaming zone and other improvements are all important, but our biggest challenge is just treating people better. We can't make our work easier, but we can appreciate the work people do. We can say please, thank you, and hello. We can pat people on the back when they do well, and we can help people get better in constructive ways when they don't do well. That's how you improve quality of life on a daily basis. And, you don't need a financial plan or a bigger budget to make things better!

So, that's it for this year. Get ready to deploy this summer, prepare for our ORI, and improve the quality of the lives here by treating people politely and fairly. This is pretty easy to write about, but it's harder to execute. I ask for everyone's help, including our dependents and retirees, to make all three happen in 2004.

Dr. Martin Luther King remembered

by Gen. Lester L. Lyles
Commander, Air Force Materiel Command

I would never try to recollect the story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life or his accomplishments — most Americans are familiar with this already, or certainly will have the opportunity to learn more about this great man from the many historical articles and TV specials presented during our national holiday honoring him.

Instead, I want to briefly reflect on Dr. King's most famous speech — "I have a dream" — which he gave Aug. 28, 1963.

I was 17 years old on that hot, sultry day and about to enter college in my hometown of Washington, D.C.

I can honestly say I was not a young man with a great social conscience at the time. Yes, I was concerned about the plight of minorities, but I was not fully involved in the equality movement.

The march for equality in Washington that day was at first nothing more than an exciting happening — lots of people, movie and TV stars, and political dignitaries.

I remember walking down the broad expanse of Constitution Avenue from the Capitol to the park grounds and reflecting pool by the Lincoln Memorial listening to people singing "We shall overcome" watching people marching arm-in-arm like old friends.

What initially stirred my emotions and started me thinking that this was not just a happening, but something truly significant, was when I noticed that this magnificent crowd of 300,000 did not con-

tain just African-Americans, but people of all races and ages, people from all walks of life marching and singing for a cause. This was true integration and equality.

When Dr. King came to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, a hush descended over the crowd and he began in his deep, melodious, rich tone. With the giant statue of Abraham Lincoln as a backdrop, it was almost as if the president who freed the slaves was pleased at what he was seeing and hearing; like a fatherly spirit proud of what his Emancipation Proclamation had set in motion some 100 years before.

We've come a long way as a society since that day in 1963, thanks to the unceasing contributions of heroes like Dr. King ... some known and many more unknown. It's the countless unknown heroes we should strive to recognize and remember.

If you are inclined to doubt the success of these heroes, just ponder the current landscape in our nation's senior leadership: Secretary of State Colin Powell, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, congressmen and women.

I hope the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Day will not just be "a day of rest." It should be a day of action that each of you will participate in projects that promote the ideals of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. This national holiday will remind us that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy lives on. His dream has made a difference in our lives.

DUI Update

Days since last DUI **34**
DUIs this year **9**
This week last year **8**

Last six DUIs

• 49 MOS	Dec. 13
• 49 CS	Nov. 27
• 49 CES*	Nov. 26
• 49 GAF	Nov. 23
• 49 MXS	Nov. 23
• 49 AMXS	Nov. 16

572-RIDE works!

Calls made are lives saved

156 Saves this year
8 Saves this week



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Some tax statements now online at myPay

Tax statements are now posted on myPay for Army, Navy and Air Force Reserve, Department of Defense and Department of Energy civilian employees, military annuitants and military retirees.

The W-2 and 1099 statements are available for these groups to view and print, allowing them to submit their tax returns.

Air Force active-duty members will have their statements posted no earlier than Jan. 16, but no later than Jan. 26.

Employees can view their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

For assistance call myPay customer support toll-free at (800) 390-2348.

AIRMEN *Continued from Page One*

Coble assessed their supplies.

“Our biggest (concern was) making sure no one entered the area,” Sergeant Klinkert said. “In the dark, it would have been easy for someone else to stumble on the minefield.”

Sergeant Klinkert’s fears almost became a reality when a Marine who was patrolling the area began to approach the Humvee.

“I yelled for him to stay back,” he said. “At first, he didn’t understand, but he got the message and backed off. We were able to keep others out of the area until we were rescued by the Army engineers.”

Security forces members guarded the area until morning.

Just after first light, de-mining experts from the 41st Engineering Battalion, B Company, arrived at the scene with heavily armored de-mining vehicles to clear the area and recover the damaged Humvee.

“Looking at the damage to the vehicle, it’s obvious that the outcome would have been grim if we hadn’t been in an ‘up-armored’ Humvee,” Airman Coble said.

Up-armored Humvees have ballistic-resistant glass and armor added to the sides, bottom and top.

The airmen were also lucky that they stumbled upon nonfragmenting anti-personnel mines rather than anti-tank mines, which might have caused significantly more

“There was nothing to indicate our airmen were heading into danger on their patrol.”

2nd Lt. Andrew Rushing
455th Expeditionary Security Forces operations officer

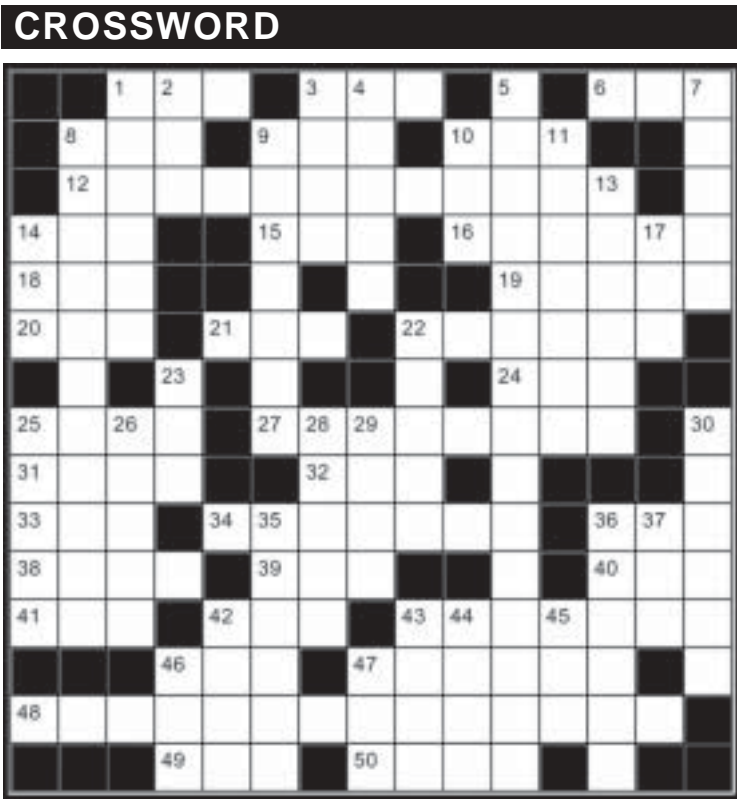
damage to the Humvee.

During the 10-year Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, it is estimated that millions of different types of mines were laid. Marked minefields surround the base, and unmarked fields are discovered regularly. The mines the Humvee hit may have been laid before the airmen were even born, officials said.

“De-mining operations continue here daily, but it could take years to find and clear them all,” said 2nd Lt. Andrew Rushing, the security forces operations officer deployed from Minot Air Force Base, N.D. “There was nothing to indicate our airmen were heading into danger on their patrol.”

Sergeant Klinkert and Airman Coble said they consider their experience an opportunity to learn and become more effective in their force-protection measures.

Once they were out of danger, they returned to duty without pause, and were even on hand when the de-mining operations began.



Operations Name Game

- ACROSS**
1. Accountant (abbrev.)
3. Air Force cops (abbrev.)
6. Canal
8. Negative
9. ___-doo; witchcraft
10. Explosive
12. Recent operation to remove Hussein regime
14. Mon.
15. Ticket
16. Tribute
18. 34th president informally
19. Lies
20. Military pay statement
21. Bullfight cry
22. 1991 Operation Desert _____; Protect Saudi Arabia
24. Compass direction
25. Eras
27. Outsider
31. Greek god of love
32. Dribble
33. Fuel
34. Operation Rolling ____,US bombing campaign in Vietnam
36. Acronym for finding lost boats, planes
38. Egyptian nature goddess
39. Abbreviation on a business sign
40. Army bed
41. Military identification number (abbrev.)
42. Dine
43. Stage paintings
46. Mistake
47. Animal without feet
48. D-Day operational deception plan for Patton
49. Acronym for a controlling
- naval ship

50. Type of cheese

DOWN
1. Aztec conqueror
2. School org.
3. Treaty governing US forces overseas
4. Operation Joint _____; Bosnia peacekeeping
5. Current operation for global war on terrorism
7. Mess hall items
8. 1973 Operation to support Israel during war with Arabs
9. 1948 Operation to sustain Berlin during blockade
10. Golf support
11. Hydrocarbon used to make dyes
13. Exotic car manufacturer
14. Car necessity
17. Diploma equiv.
22. Endure
23. Beginning of American naval ships
25. Type of Navy cruiser
26. Red dye
28. Rely on
29. Undersized
30. Someone who dies for a cause
35. Card game
36. Smells
37. Military commander's geographic control (abbrev.)
42. Actress Julia's brother
43. Raced
44. 'La ___ Nostra'; mafia
45. Arizona school (abbrev.)
46. Continuing on (abbrev.)
47. Juice drink

Officials target military pay increases

by **Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample**
American Forces Press Service

Military personnel will see their basic pay more in line with their civilian counterparts in the private sector in 2004 thanks to an increased pay and benefits compensation package. The package is included in the 2004 Defense Authorization Act approved by Congress.

The 2004 military pay and benefits plan provides a 3.7-percent across-the-board pay increase, said Col. Virginia S. Penrod, director of military compensation for the Department of Defense. It also targets pay increases for noncommissioned officers and warrant officers, some as high as 6.25 percent for senior-enlisted servicemembers.

Servicemembers will also see increases in housing allowance pay and special incentive pay.

The average basic pay raise, which is equal to a little more than 4 percent, helps to close the gap between military pay and civilian pay, Colonel Penrod said.

“Everyone receives a 3.7-percent pay raise across the board, this is by law,” she said. The pay raise is a half percentage point more than private sector civilian employees will earn.

Part of the pay incentive is to help

retain senior NCOs, she said. The highest pay raises, 6.25 percent, will go to E-9s with 26 years or more service.

An average increase of almost 8 percent for military basic allowance for housing — money given to military personnel to help defray the cost of housing expenses — is also included in the package.

“The almost 8-percent increase for housing allowance continues our effort to reduce out-of-pocket expenses for military personnel,” Colonel Penrod said. Pentagon officials said they are hopeful to do this by fiscal year 2005.

“When BAH was enacted, housing allowances amounted to 80 percent of housing costs, this left the servicemember with 20-percent out-of-pocket cost,” she said. “In fiscal ... 2000, the secretary of defense committed the department to reduce these out-of-pocket expenses to zero by 2005. And we’re on track to do this.”

Military out-of-pocket-expenses for housing are down to about 3.5 percent for January 2004 and “should be at zero in 2005,” Colonel Penrod said.

Another area of increased pay will be special and incentive pay, such as imminent danger pay and family separation pay.

Those pay increases were made possible in part because of President Bush’s supplemental funding request in 2003,

Colonel Penrod said. That request authorized funding for increases in imminent danger pay from \$150 to \$225 per month, as well as increases in the family separation pay and support allowance from \$100 to \$250 per month.

Also, beginning in 2004, the new compensation package will start phasing in percentage increases each year. The increase is amounts offset under current law for military retirees with a Veterans Affairs disability of 50 percent or more and eligible to receive both military retirement and Veterans Affairs disability pay. Currently a veteran’s retirement pay is reduced by a percentage of the disability pay received from VA.

Beginning in 2004, veterans will receive an increased portion of the “offset” to their retirement pay, Colonel Penrod said.

Another pay benefit for veterans in 2004 will be in combat-related special compensation programs for retirees whose disability is directly related to combat or training for combat. Now all retirees will be eligible for these payments which essentially provide the equivalent of full concurrent receipt, Colonel Penrod said. The retiree must have had 20 years of service to qualify.

DoD officials said they remain committed to the preservation of a compen-

sation and benefit structure that will provide members with a suitable and secure standard of living and will sustain a trained, experienced and ready force in the future.

HAFB BAH/BAS Rates		
	Without Dependents	With Dependents
O-10	1030.00	1222.00
O-9	1030.00	1222.00
O-8	1030.00	1222.00
O-7	1030.00	1222.00
O-6	1010.00	1208.00
O-5	935.00	1198.00
O-4	886.00	1093.00
O-3	761.00	1007.00
O-2	652.00	802.00
O-1	500.00	697.00
O-3E	805.00	1034.00
O-2E	737.00	996.00
O-1E	684.00	895.00
E-9	745.00	1025.00
E-8	708.00	960.00
E-7	598.00	879.00
E-6	513.00	805.00
E-5	484.00	684.00
E-4	452.00	592.00
E-3	452.00	592.00
E-2	452.00	592.00
E-1	452.00	592.00
BAS:	RIKNA: 262.50	
Officers: 175.23	Emerg: 270.00	
Enlisted: 254.46	Meal Ded: 7.10 daily	

	Under 2	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 24	Over 26
O-10												12,524.70	12,586.20	12,847.80	13,303.80
O-9												10,954.50	11,112.30	11,340.30	11,738.40
O-8	7,751.10	8,004.90	8,173.20	8,220.60	8,430.30	8,781.90	8,863.50	9,197.10	9,292.80	9,579.90	9,995.70	10,379.10	10,635.30	10,635.30	10,635.30
O-7	6,440.70	6,739.80	6,878.40	6,988.50	7,187.40	7,384.20	7,611.90	7,839.00	8,066.70	8,781.90	9,386.10	9,386.10	9,386.10	9,386.10	9,433.50
O-6	4,773.60	5,244.30	5,588.40	5,588.40	5,609.70	5,850.00	5,882.10	5,882.10	6,216.30	6,807.30	7,154.10	7,500.90	7,698.30	7,897.80	8,285.40
O-5	3,979.50	4,482.90	4,793.40	4,851.60	5,044.80	5,161.20	5,415.90	5,602.80	5,844.00	6,213.60	6,389.70	6,563.40	6,760.80	6,760.80	6,760.80
O-4	3,433.50	3,974.70	4,239.90	4,299.00	4,545.30	4,809.30	5,137.80	5,394.00	5,571.60	5,673.60	5,733.00	5,733.00	5,733.00	5,733.00	5,733.00
O-3	3,018.90	3,422.40	3,693.90	4,027.20	4,220.10	4,431.60	4,568.70	4,794.30	4,911.30	4,911.30	4,911.30	4,911.30	4,911.30	4,911.30	4,911.30
O-2	2,595.60	2,956.50	3,405.00	3,519.90	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50	3,592.50
O-1	2,253.60	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70	2,834.70
E-9							3,769.20	3,854.70	3,962.40	4,089.30	4,216.50	4,421.10	4,594.20	4,776.60	5,054.70
E-8						3,085.50	3,222.00	3,306.30	3,407.70	3,517.50	3,715.50	3,815.70	3,986.40	4,081.20	4,314.30
E-7	2,145.00	2,341.20	2,430.60	2,549.70	2,642.10	2,801.40	2,891.10	2,980.20	3,139.80	3,219.60	3,295.50	3,341.70	3,498.00	3,599.10	3,855.00
E-6	1,855.50	2,041.20	2,131.20	2,218.80	2,310.00	2,516.10	2,596.20	2,685.30	2,763.30	2,790.90	2,809.80	2,809.80	2,809.80	2,809.80	2,809.80
E-5	1,700.10	1,813.50	1,901.10	1,991.10	2,130.60	2,250.90	2,339.70	2,367.90	2,367.90	2,367.90	2,367.90	2,367.90	2,367.90	2,367.90	2,367.90
E-4	1,558.20	1,638.30	1,726.80	1,814.10	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50	1,891.50
E-3	1,407.00	1,495.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50	1,585.50
E-2	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40	1,331.40
E-1	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90	1,173.90
<4 months		1,086.00													
O-3E				4,027.20	4,220.10	4,431.60	4,568.70	4,794.30	5,241.30	5,241.30	4,180.20	4,180.20	4,180.20	3,537.00	3,537.00
O-2E				3,537.00	3,609.90	3,724.80	3,918.60	4,984.20	5,241.30	5,241.30	4,180.20	4,180.20	3,382.20	3,537.00	3,537.00
O-1E				2,848.50	3,042.30	3,154.50	3,269.40	5,092.80	5,241.30	4,068.60	4,180.20	4,180.20	3,537.00	3,537.00	3,537.00

BRIEFS

Volunteer NCO corps

Air Force officials have announced the start of the 2004 NCO retraining program. The 2004 NCORP will target approximately 1,100 NCOs to retrain from Air Force Specialty Codes with NCO overages to AFSCs with NCO shortages. Grade-year groups as follows: master sergeants with 18 years and less and technical sergeants with 16 years and less. The voluntary phase of the program runs from Jan. 5 through Feb. 23.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Chris Polk or Senior Airman Timothy Sanford at 527-7375.

Tribute

The 2004 Tribute to Women in the Military is 7 a.m., March 5 at the Hilton Hotel, 1901 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, N.M. There are workshops, speakers and exhibits. Registration by Jan. 30 is \$15 and late registration is \$20.

For more information, call Betty Brooks at (505) 821-1092.

Gospel extravaganza

There is a gospel extravaganza 1 to 4 p.m., Jan. 25 in the Chapel. Four local choirs will perform, poetry will be read and there will be a praise dance.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Gandy at 572-7311 or Ms. Valerie Smith at 572-7508.

Black History Month

The Black History Month committee meets 9 a.m., Fridays in the Military Equal Opportunity classroom, building 29, Room 2760.

Volunteers

Palace Envoy request for volunteers, officer requirements (captain only) for operations officer, bilateral affairs office, office of defense cooperation in Georgia.

The operations officer executes the Joint Contact Team Program. The JCTP mission requires dealing effectively with senior officers in countries which have had few pre-

vious contacts with the U.S. military. Operations officer nominees must possess a high level of interpersonal skills, exceptional maturity, flexibility and self discipline. Nominees must meet all physical, weight and mental fitness standards as directed by the Air Force. The tour length is 179 days. No AEF or short tour credit is given.

Volunteer packages must be faxed no later than the nomination due date to HQ USAF/XPZI, point of contact Ms. Ginny Basl, at DSN (314) 980-9729. Contact Ms. Basl at DSN (314) 480-8944, (505) 480-6231 or e-mail virginia.basl@ramstein.af.mil.

HOSC

Holloman Officers' Spouses Club invites all Holloman officers' spouses to Game Show Night at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday in the officers' club. Make reservations or cancellations by noon, Tuesday. Last names beginning with A to M should call Ms. Christine Juedeman at 479-2222 and last names beginning with N to Z should call Ms. Pat Hendrix at 434-5291.

FSC

The Family Support Center offers the following classes and events at the FSC, building 40:

- Three-day transition assistance program: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- Disability transition assistance program: 8:30 a.m., Thursday.

For more information, contact the FSC at 572-7754 or visit the Web site at www.mil.holloman.af.mil/sptg/mss/fsc.

Red Cross

The Red Cross schedule of events is as follows:

- Infant and child CPR: 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday in Alamogordo.

For more information, call the Holloman Red Cross at 572-7066.

Communications training

The annual 49th Fighter Wing Communications and Information Professional, Education and Training and Personnel Manager of the Year Awards Luncheon is 11:30 a.m., Jan. 28 at the Oasis Enlisted Club. Check with your group representatives for cost, tickets and meal choices. R.S.V.P. by Jan. 23.

Women's history month

The first National Women's History Month committee meeting is 2 p.m., Jan. 23 in the Military Equal Opportunity classroom, building 29, Suite 2170.

For more information, call 572-3032.

Spaghetti dinner

Holloman single airmen are invited to



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vanessa LaBoy

Chiefs' choice

Airman 1st Class Richard Daugherty, 49th Fighter Wing Command Post controller, responds to an in-flight emergency. The Chiefs' Group selected him for the September 2003 Chiefs' Choice Award.

a spaghetti dinner at 6 p.m., Thursday at the base chapel.

RV/Trailer parking

Recreational vehicles and trailers can't park in housing areas for longer than 24 hours. The 24 hour limit is to allow for loading and unloading. All RVs must be stored in the lot located at 5th Street and Arkansas. Spaces are assigned and controlled by the Outdoor Recreation Center, 572-5369 or 572-7329.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Stacy Nimmo at 572-5832



B On the BIG SCREEN



Love don't cost a thing (PG-13)

7 p.m., today

Haunted Mansion (PG)

7 and 10 p.m., Saturday

Honey (PG-13)

7 p.m., Sunday

For a limited time, tickets are 99 cents.

What's going on in the Tularosa Basin and beyond

Swing dance

There is a country swing dance at the Senior Center from 7 to 9:30 p.m., today.

For more information, call 443-4150.

Hiking club

The Southern New Mexico Hiking Club meets at 9 a.m., Saturday at the White Sands National Monument. Meet behind the visitor's center for a three-mile hike.

For more information, call 443-0304 or e-mail *ncote@zianet.com*.

Tea dance

Big Band on the Rio Grande hosts a tea dance from 2 to 5 p.m., Sunday at the Court Youth Center in Las Cruces, 402 W. Court Ave. Admission is \$5 per person.

Friends of library

The Alamogordo Friends of the Library has its regular meeting at 7 p.m., Sunday in the library's multi-purpose room. All officers, members and other friends are invited to attend.

For more information, call 437-6681 or 439-4140.

Pruning classes

The Otero County Extension Service offers free pruning classes at 10:30 a.m., Jan. 24 at Leary's Garden Center.

For more information, call 437-9120.

White Sands hours

During February, the White Sands National Monument Visitor Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Dunes Drive may be entered from 7 a.m. to sunset daily, except during missile test closures. All visitors must exit the park by one hour af-

ter sunset. Entrance fee: \$3 per adult (17 and over), free for children.

Nature Walk

The White Sands National Monument Sunset Stroll Nature Walk is 4:30 p.m., Feb. 1 through 8 and 4:45 p.m., Feb. 9 through 25.

For more information and reservations, call (505) 479-6124 or 679-2599, ext. 232 or visit the park Web site at *www.nps.gov/whsa*.

Stars-N-Parks

The National Public Observatory's Stars-N-Parks program is 6:40 p.m., Jan. 24 at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park's group shelter. Cost is \$4 per vehicle for entry to the park. Visitors observe the moon, Venus, Mars, Saturn and the winter sky.

For more information, call Mr. Charles Wood at 437-8284.

Singin' in the Rain

"Singin' In the Rain" plays at 2 p.m., Jan. 25 at the Flickinger Center. Cost is \$24 for adults and \$18 for children.

For more information, call the Flickinger Center at 437-2202 or go to the Web site *www.zianet.com/flickinger*.

Flook! & Susan

"Flook! & Susan McKeown" plays at 7:30 p.m., Jan. 30. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$15 for children.

For more information, call the Flickinger Center at 437-2202 or go to the Web site *www.xianet.com/glickinger*.

No Strings Theater

No Strings Theatre Company presents "A Prelude to a Kiss" at 7 p.m., Thursdays, 8 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 and 7 p.m., Sundays, today through Jan. 25 at the Black

Box Theatre, 430 N. Downtown Mall, Las Cruces. Call (505) 523-1223 for current prices.

Crochet guild

Crochet Guild of America, the Alamogordo Touch of Class Chapter, meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Jan. 27 at Old Town Needlework, 908 New York Ave. All levels of crocheters welcome.

For more information, call 437-3832.

Give blood

United Blood Services is at the Family Recreation Center in the gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 31.

For more information, Call 437-8922, ext. 15.

Car club

Golden Gears Car Club has a "cruise-in" at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 31 at Dairy Queen.

For more information, call 434-0200.

State park permits

Annual day-use and camping permits are now available for all 31 New Mexico state parks. Valid until Dec. 31, the permits can be purchased at any park visitor center or at the New Mexico State Parks Division office in Santa Fe, 1220 St. Francis Drive. Day-use permits are \$20 for one vehicle and \$10 for an additional vehicle for both residents and non-residents. Camping permits are available for \$90 to New Mexico residents who are 62 or older and to disabled residents. Without a permit, camping fees are \$10 a day in a developed site.

For more information about fees and permits, call (888) NM-PARKS or visit *www.nmparks.com*.

Communication breakdown

Engineers take down CS 39-31

by Airman 1st Class

Stephen Collier

49th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Three consecutive fast breaks helped the 49th Civil Engineer Squadron B team clinch a 39-31 victory over the 49th Communications Squadron during intramural basketball action Jan. 8 at the Fitness and Sports Center.

The teams remained close from the start with quick layups by CS forward Joseph Gonzalez and CES forward Eric Abramson, tying the score at 8-8. Three minutes passed with no score until CES guard Rick Varela scored a lay-up unchallenged.

CES continued their offensive push with two more layups by Varela. CS ended the first half with a two-point jump shot, putting them behind 20-11.

"We just need to play defense," CS coach John Sisson said. "With a bit more push from the offense, we'll get ahead."

The engineers came out strong in the second half, holding back any rebound into the game from the CS defense. CES forward Mitchell Schanke sank a two-pointer in the first minute, settling the scoreboard at 22-14. Defenses from both teams remained determined. CES called their first timeout with 9:10 on the clock.

CES came out of the timeout hot with a fast-break layup by Abramson. But, without notice, CS forward Eric Shaw stepped up for his team and added four points to the board, propping the CS team within seven points leaving the score at 35-28.

The CES team played a harder offensive game with Varela drilling the ball twice down the paint to make the score 39-31. CS couldn't get past a tough CES defense, ending the game with no other score.

The intramural basketball season continues in to early March. For information on the season and teams, call the Fitness and Sports Center at 572-3229.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

A 49th Communications Squadron forward, Mitchell Schanke, makes a jump shot over 49th Civil Engineer Squadron defender, Jeremy Reeder, in the 49th CES win over 49th CS Jan. 8 at the Fitness and Sports Center.



Intramural Standings - Basketball

Large Unit			Small Unit			Over 30		
Team	Win	Loss	Team	Win	Loss	Team	Win	Loss
49 OSS A	2	0	49 CES B	2	0	49 CES	3	0
49 LRS	2	0	49 MSS/FW	2	0	49 MDG	3	0
49 MDG	1	0	46 TG	2	0	49 LRS	1	1
49 CESA	1	1	49 OSS B	1	0	46 TG	1	2
8 AMU	1	1	4 SPCS	1	1	4 SPCS	1	2
49 MXS	1	1	746 TS	0	1	49 MXS	1	2
49 MMG	0	1	49 MXS	0	2	49 SFS	0	2
9 AMU	0	2	49 CS	0	2			
49 SFS	0	2	49 CONS	0	2			

World of Sports

The Intramural Winter Golf Tournament Semifinals are scheduled Friday at the Apache Mesa Golf Course

Holloman Air Force Base Bench Press Competition is scheduled at 5 p.m., Jan. 26 at the Fitness and Sports Center

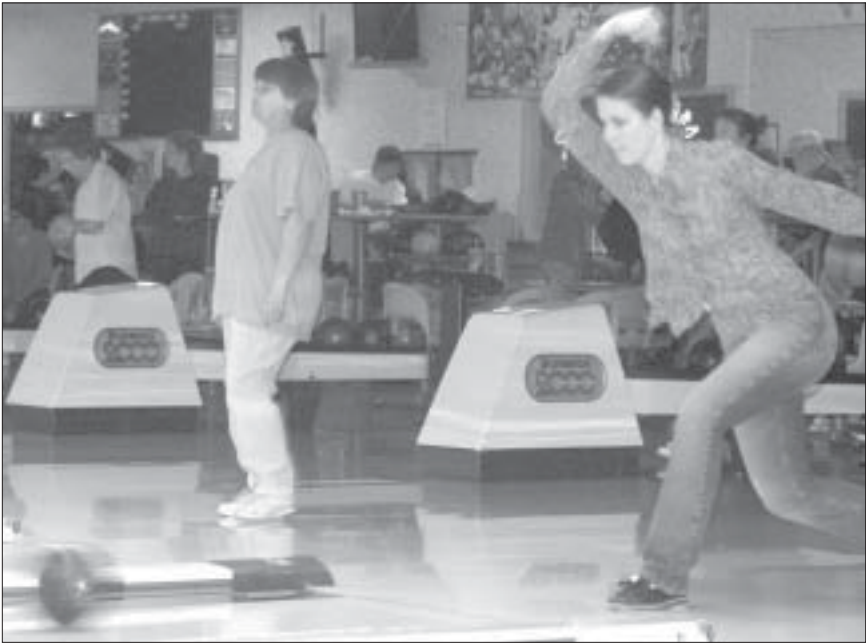


Photo by Airman 1st Class Stephen Collier

It's a strike

Kara Noya, Team WBB member, in the Women's Bowling League, bowls away Tuesday night at the Desert Lanes Bowling Center. The Women's League is from early September through March. For information on leagues, contact the bowling center at 572-7378.

